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Level 1 – 25th August, 2020

750 million genetically modified mosquitoes to be released

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200825-mosquitoes-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200825-mosquitoes-1.html>

Scientists will put 750 million genetically modified mosquitoes into the wild. This is to reduce the number of insects that have diseases like yellow fever. It will start next year in a chain of tropical islands south of Florida. The modified mosquitoes are all male. They carry a protein that will kill young females before they reach biting age. Only female mosquitoes feed on our blood and bite us. Scientists hope to cut the number of disease-carrying mosquitoes.

Environmental groups are not happy. One group called it a "Jurassic Park experiment". It called Florida "a testing ground for mutant bugs". It warned the project could damage ecosystems. The experiment could create a new super-species of mosquito. One environmental group said the mosquitoes would put people, the environment and endangered species at risk. The company releasing the mosquitoes said there was no risk.

Sources: <https://www.baynews9.com/fl/tampa/news/2020/08/21/florida-to-release-genetically-modified-mosquitoes-in-the-keys>
<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/genetically-modified-mosquitoes-florida-test-release>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-53856776>

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PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200825-mosquitoes-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. into the | a. young females |
| 2. This is to reduce | b. fever |
| 3. insects that | c. carrying mosquitoes |
| 4. yellow | d. have diseases |
| 5. a chain of tropical | e. wild |
| 6. a protein that will kill | f. on our blood |
| 7. mosquitoes feed | g. the number |
| 8. the number of disease- | h. islands |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Environmental groups | a. species |
| 2. a testing ground | b. damage ecosystems |
| 3. the project could | c. no risk |
| 4. create a new super-species | d. for mutant bugs |
| 5. One environmental | e. the mosquitoes |
| 6. endangered | f. of mosquito |
| 7. The company releasing | g. group |
| 8. there was | h. are not happy |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200825-mosquitoes-1.html>

Scientists will put 750 million genetically modified mosquitoes (1) _____. This is to reduce the number of insects that have diseases (2) _____. It will start next year in a chain of (3) _____ of Florida. The modified mosquitoes are all male. They (4) _____ that will kill young females before they reach biting age. Only female mosquitoes feed on our (5) _____ us. Scientists hope to cut (6) _____ disease-carrying mosquitoes.

Environmental groups (7) _____. One group called it a "Jurassic Park experiment". It called Florida "a testing ground (8) _____. It warned the project could damage ecosystems. The experiment (9) _____ new super-species of mosquito. One environmental group said the mosquitoes (10) _____, the environment and endangered (11) _____. The company releasing the mosquitoes said (12) _____ risk.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200825-mosquitoes-1.html>

Scientists will put 750 million genetically modified mosquitoes into the wild. This is to reduce the number of insects that have diseases like yellow fever. It will start next year in a chain of tropical islands south of Florida. The modified mosquitoes are all male. They carry a protein that will kill young females before they reach biting age. Only female mosquitoes feed on our blood and bite us. Scientists hope to cut the number of disease-carrying mosquitoes. Environmental groups are not happy. One group called it a "Jurassic Park experiment". It called Florida "a testing ground for mutant bugs". It warned the project could damage ecosystems. The experiment could create a new super-species of mosquito. One environmental group said the mosquitoes would put people, the environment and endangered species at risk. The company releasing the mosquitoes said there was no risk.

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MOSQUITOES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200825-mosquitoes-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about mosquitoes in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

